

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants respectfully request the examiner to reconsider her rejection for the reasons set forth hereinbelow.

What the examiner has failed to grasp is the fact that the combination of the teachings suggested by the examiner in the Tanaka primary reference would result in a silicon bond coat which would result in unlimited amounts of silica from the oxidation of the bond coat. This excess silica which would result from oxidation of the silicon bond coat of Tanaka under the proposed combination by the examiner would defeat the inventive concept of the Tanaka patent. Thus, the combination of references proposed by the examiner belies the concept of a whole clause and cannot be said to be obvious as Tanaka clearly would not employ a silicon bond coat in his system which would lead to excess silica.

Accordingly, it is submitted that the examiner's rejection is fatally flawed and should be withdrawn.

An earnest and thorough attempt has been made by the undersigned to resolve the outstanding issues in this case and place same in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or feels that a telephone or personal interview would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues which remain in this application after consideration of this amendment, the Examiner is courteously invited to telephone the undersigned and the same would be gratefully appreciated.

It is submitted that the claims as amended herein patentably define over the art relied on by the Examiner and early allowance of same is courteously solicited.

Appl. SN 10/737,138
Amdt. Dated October 5, 2007
Reply to Office Action of August 23, 2007

If any fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 21-0279.

Respectfully submitted,

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